

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

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ACTION DHA-02

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-15 /084 W

-----081453Z 072520 /43

P R 081421Z MAR 77

FM AMCONSUL BELFAST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1599

AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

USMISSION GENEVA

USNAVCOMMSTA LONDON DERRY

UNCLAS BELFAST 76

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, SHUM, UK, EI

SUBJECT: REPRESENTATIVE OF LONDON HUMAN RIGHTS GROUP

INVESTIGATING INJURY OF SUSPECT IN CUSTODY

REF: BELFAST 72 (NOTAL)

1. NIAL KIELY, A MEMBER NORTHERN IRELAND STAFF IRISH TIMES OF DUBLIN IN STORY MARCH 8 REPORTED REPRESENTATIVE OF LONDON-BASED CENTRE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES (CHRR) WAS DISSATISFIED WITH POLICE EXPLANATIONS OF INJURIES TO SUSPECT IN CUSTODY IN BELFAST. EDWARD ROONEY OF BALLYMURPHY DRIVE, WEST BELFAST SUSTAINED FRACTURED SKULL COLLAPSED LUNG AND OTHER SERIOUS INJURIES IN 25-FOOT FALL FROM SECOND STORY WINDOW OF SPRINGFIELD ROAD POLICE STATION NIGHT OF FEBRUARY 28. ROYAL ULSTER CONSTABULARY VERSION IS THAT AT 9:40 IN EVENING ROONEY WAS TAKEN INTO CUSTODY 12 HOURS, EARLIER, SUDDENLY BROKE AWAY FROM DETECTIVES AND JUMPED THROUGH CLOSED WINDOW LANDING ON HIS HEAD ON TOP OF CAR IN PARKING LOT BELOW. POLICE HAVE STATED ROONEY WILL BE CHARGED WITH EXPLOSIVES OFFENSE WHEN HIS CONDITION PERMITS. VARIOUS LOCAL GROUPS AND UNCLASSIFIED

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INDIVIDUALS, INCLUDING FATHER DENIS FALL, EXPRESSED CONCERN OVER INCIDENT. LOCAL EXPRESSIONS OF DOUBT HAVE CENTRED AROUND BOTH CIRCUMSTANCES OF FALL AND ROONEY'S PHYSICAL AND MENTAL STATE AT TIME. THERE HAVE BEEN CLAIMS RECENTLY THAT OTHER SUSPECTS HAVE ATTEMPTED SUICIDE TO ESCAPE BRUTAL INTERROGATION.

2. KIELY ARTICLE REPORTED THAT REVEREND RAYMOND HELMICK, AN

AMERICAN JESUIT WHO WORKS FOR CHRR, IS PUZZLED BY ABSENCE OF GLASS FRAGMENTS OR GLASS LACERATIONS IN GARMENTS OR ON PERSON OF INJURED MAN. HELMICK HAS ".....ORGANIZED A PANEL OF THREE INDEPENDENT MEDICAL EXPERTS, ALL AMERICAN - A PHYSICIAN, A PSYCHIATRIST AND A NEUROLOGIST....HOPES THAT THEY WILL BE ALLOWED TO EXAMINE THE INJURED MAN AND COMPILE A FULL REPORT ON HIS CONDITION."

3. KIELY REPORT ALSO STATED HELMICK IS IN LIAISON WITH NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CIVIL LIBERTIES IN LONDON, HOPES TO INVOLVE SEAN MC BRIDE AND HAS BEEN IN CONTACT WITH PROFESSOR FRANK NEWMAN CONSULTANT TO MR. (ALLARD) LOWENSTEIN. "HE EXPECTS POSITIVE RESPONSE FROM MR. LOWENSTEIN VIA PROFESSOR NEWMAN WITHIN THE NEXT FEW DAYS."

4. CONGEN HAS NO RPT NOT INSIDE INFORMATION ON POLICE PRACTICES. FOLLOWING POINTS NOTED: (A) SENIOR POLICE OFFICIAL CLAIMED THAT SUSPECTS IN JEFFREY AGAT SLEMING INFLICTED INJURIES ON THEMSELVES, (B) WHILE PUBLIC ALLEGATIONS POLICE BRUTALITY DURING INTERROGATION HAVE INCREASED DRAMATICALLY IN RECENT WEEKS, ACTUAL NUMBER OF COMPLAINTS FILED THIS YEAR SO FAR IS 306 OR 309 COMPARED TO 290 FOR SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR, (C) IN LENGTHY TERRORISM TRIAL OF 26 MEMBERS ULSTER VOLUNTEER FORCE SOME STATEMENTS MADE BY ONE DEFENDANT WERE THROWN OUT BY JUDGE ON GROUNDS THEY OBTAINED UNDER DURESS, (D) ALLEGATIONS OF POLICE BRUTALITY IN NORTHERN IRELAND COINCIDE WITH SPATE OF ACCUSATIONS OF BRUTALITY AGAINST IRISH CONVICTS IN BRITISH PRISONS AND AGAINST SUSPECTS IN GARDA CUSTODY IN REPUBLIC. SPICER

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## Message Attributes

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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** REPRESENTATIVE OF LONDON HUMAN RIGHTS GROUP INVESTIGATING INJURY OF SUSPECT IN CUSTODY  
**TAGS:** PINT, SHUM, UK, EI, (ROONEY, EDWARD)  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009